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Commission on Narcotic Drugs
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Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016: demand reduction and related measures

Colombia, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Sweden and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: draft resolution

Supporting the availability, accessibility and diversity of evidence-based treatment and care for young people affected by drug use disorders

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Single Convention on Drugs of 1961,[1] that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[2] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[3] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[4]

Recalling especially article 38 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, according to which parties to the Convention shall give special attention to practicable measures for the prevention of use of drugs and for the early identification, treatment, education, aftercare, rehabilitation and social reintegration of the persons involved and shall coordinate their efforts to these ends,

* E/CN.7/2015/1.
[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.
[2] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[3] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[4] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

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Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[5] and the determination of Member States to provide the necessary resources for treatment and rehabilitation and to enable social reintegration so as to restore dignity and hope to children, young people, women and men affected by drug use disorders,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[6]

Bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[7] which provides in its article 33 that States parties should take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as defined in the relevant international treaties, and to prevent the use of children in the illicit production of and trafficking of such substances,

Bearing in mind also that children and young people are the most valuable asset for achieving development and that Governments are obliged to protect them,

Noting with grave concern the decrease in the age of children and young people starting to use drugs,

Stressing the importance of a multisectoral and fully coordinated approach in which multiple government agencies and non-governmental organizations within communities participate in order to support the development of a full continuum of policies and programmes that promote prevention, early identification and intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and related support services,

Recognizing the special needs of young people affected by drug use disorders, and the related necessity of providing drug use disorder treatment and care services in a continuum of care throughout and beyond the treatment cycle, specifically differentiated to address those needs, including engagement and motivation strategies, differentiated low-threshold services, screening and assessment approaches, psychosocial treatment approaches, pharmacological treatment approaches and relapse prevention, as well as rehabilitation and reintegration strategies,

Recognizing also the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to raise awareness of drug use disorders and the special needs of young people, and to provide technical assistance to Member States to improve the services available for young people affected by drug use disorders,

Emphasizing the need to provide young people with equal and adequate access to treatment, including drug use disorder treatment for youth in the prison system,

Acknowledging with concern the barriers that prevent young people, from accessing youth-friendly services for the treatment and care of drug use disorders,

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[5] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

such as stigmatizing attitudes and discrimination, lack of differentiated services, lack of resources or fear of negative consequences, including within and for their families,

Stressing the importance of taking into account human rights obligations in the implementation of drug use disorder treatment programmes and policies, particularly those focusing on young people, families and communities,

Recognizing the need to take into account individual differences among young people related to age, developmental stage, gender, educational and cultural background, severity of drug use disorder, consumption patterns, polydrug use and co-morbidity, when developing differentiated drug use disorder treatment and care services,

Stressing that successful treatment requires approaches that incorporate the inclusion of family members or other significant adults, caregivers or close kin,

Recognizing the need to provide specialized training and supervision for health and social care professionals, including professionals in civil society, who work with young people affected by drug use disorders,

1. *Invites* Member States, in accordance with their national legislation, to consider exploring means, as appropriate, to provide measures to ensure non-stigmatizing attitudes towards young people affected by drug use, to help reduce marginalization and discrimination and to promote scientific evidence-based treatment and social reintegration for young people, partnering with different levels of governmental authority, including but not limited to ministries and local authorities for welfare, health and education, and, where appropriate, with civil society and communities;

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide scientific evidence-based drug use disorder treatment and care services that are sensitive to the needs of young people affected by such disorders, and that are differentiated to take account of differences in age, gender, educational and cultural background, severity of drug use disorder, including polydrug use, consumption patterns and co-morbidity, to consider increasing the coverage of existing programmes, to ensure that programmes are accessible to all and free of discrimination, and, whenever possible, and in accordance with national legislation, to offer programmes for youth in prisons, on probation or in residential care facilities and to ensure training and supervision for all relevant health and social care professionals working with these populations;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to implement, where appropriate, scientific evidence-based treatment programmes for young people that involve family members or other significant adults, caregivers or close kin;

4. *Further encourages* Member States to continue to gather scientific evidence, wherever possible in cooperation with other relevant and competent organizations, on effective scientific evidence-based drug use disorder treatment and care for young people and to share that evidence, as appropriate;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which, together with other relevant United Nations organizations and other international organizations, already has a joint programme on drug dependence treatment and care, to continue to gather detailed information on successful programmes for the

treatment and care of young people affected by drug use disorders, and to provide Member States, upon request, with guidance and assistance in developing strategies and programmes so that they can replicate those successful experiences within their own context;

6. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources or in-kind contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations, in order to support Member States, upon request, in needs assessment, capacity-building and improving the knowledge and skills of their policymakers, practitioners, researchers and professionals working with young people in the area of drug use disorder treatment.